

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE****FULL TRANSMISSION CONTROL PROTOCOL OFF-LOAD**

5 A method and system for a queue identification (QI)  
system which significantly reduces resources required to  
identify a process associated with receiving an incoming  
packet is provided. A QI mechanism is used as a TCP  
option. During a TCP connection establishment process,  
10 QI numbers are exchanged for both a sending port and a  
receiving port of the connection. After the connection  
is established, the destination QI's number is inserted  
in a Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) header on  
outbound packets.

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